THE MOON

SELWYN HOUSE SCHOOL

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CARNIVAL WITH TRAF STUDY AND WESTON

The highlight of the winter term was this year's winter carnival on Thursday the 16th, and Friday the 17th of February. A dance with three other private schools for eighth to eleventh graders took place on Thursday. The band, Fragile, was "definitely the best band the school has had in a long, long time." C. Carter, treasurer of the Student Entertainment Committee, however, did not make any comment concerning Wild Willy's Disco, other than the statement that the disco did do a reasonable job of filling in. Aside from the light that crashed down, the light show, the band, and the people who attended mixed "really, really well." Special note must be given to D. Peets, whose job as the emcee was done well (not to mention his "fascinating remarks").

The trip to Smugglers' Notch in northern Vermont was the result of long and tedious preparation with the other three schools. The operation of the trip itself with the loading of the skis was efficient. Conditions were "great" for downhill skiiers, and almost perfect (there were some icy sections) for all those who took advantage of the well laid-out cross-country trails.

The Junior and Middle Schools enjoyed a day of skating and swimming at the Olympic site as well as some tobogganning. Also, carnival buttons for free dress on Thursday were sold for the whole school. The money from this together with 38% of the ski trip's profits went to the Student Entertainment Committee, which, with Mr. Varey, must be commended for doing such a fine job.

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FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

MUSIC REVIEWS

Dear Moon:
For the first time in his column, the Music Editor has printed something I agree with. He stated, and I quote, "All reviews and comments...are not facts."
Michael Pateras 10B

PROTEST TO SCIENCE-FICTION REVIEWS

Dear Editor,
We would like to protest the article on Star Wars by James Nadler in the last issue of The Moon. It is almost totally plagerized. Most of the school body would appreciate the movie criticisms more if they were original. We simply could have picked up a Time magazine and read the same review, but with a much longer text and colour pictures. Using the example of dialogue: "I thought I reseognized your foul stench when I came abeard" was taken straight from Time. I think that it is unnecessary for the students who put together The Moon to plagerize.

Is it not the ideal of the magazine to put forth the student's own work? Why not ask students throughout the school to contribute to the reviews? I feel that this would greatly improve the "readability" of The Moon, both because the work would be brought down to the student's level (which the article in question most certainly was not) and also, it is likely that the friends of the writers who would not normally buy the Moon, would buy it.
Yours truly, Willie Mcnally

First I will defend my article and then discuss many of the points brought up by Mr. Mcnally. Frankly, I admit I took that line from the Time article but I did not plagerize. I could have used other examples ("What a wonderful smell you've discovered" or "Flying a space-freighter ain't like dusting crops, boy!") to illustrate the frequent awkward dialogue throughout the movie. The example from Time happened to be the best for my article. I apologize: it was unnecessary. However, no-where in my review did I call Star Wars the best movie of the year as Time did. And as for my article being less than ten pages with colour pictures? "Brevity is the soul of wit."

I wonder if your classmates realize that you have such a low opinion of their intelligence. How can you state that my reviews must be brought down to the students "level". The Moon is not being written and published for everyone in the school. We are not allowed to sell copies to the Junior School for one thing. We primarily sell to Grade Seven and above. Another misconception that I noticed in your level is in the manner you believe that articles are chosen to appear in the Moon. Anyone can contribute to the school's magazine. In relation to the science-fiction review column, we would appreciate if someone would write a review of Project U.F.O. .I am never in on a Sunday evening and have yet to see the show. Finally, you believe that if we did have different or more contributers The Moon's circulation would increase. This is unnecessary for our first two issues were completely sold out.
J. Nadler

FORUM

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

Undoubtedly, readers find the House System a rather dull and ordinary topic. This year, however, is not an ordinary year for the system, and it deserves special note. After a number of years of half-hearted attempts to continue the House System, high officials of the school considered discarding it altogether. However, upon discussion mainly with the graduating class, it seemed that, despite apparent disinterest, students felt that it was desirable if not essential to the school. Last September, the Headmaster called together the Grade eleven students to ask for suggestions to promote (and revive) the system. Among the ideas that were accepted are House pins, the Assembly arrangement, Inter-house debating, and the Talent Show. As detailed in the following Moon article, the results have been successful, thanks to the efforts of the participants—Grades three to eleven and the Staff.

A. C. M. H.

How many times do vicious disputes break out in the halls--loud shrieking and cries of anger over which house has the ablest athletes and the brightist scholars? And how many black eyes and bloody noses does one see incurred when harsh words lead to fists? The answer is, of course, none; and while such conduct is generally ill-advised, it would certainly disprove the apathy which seems to plague the house system, and has accounted for its past failure. In order for this to change, attitudes must change. Not until students--and yes, even teachers--show more co-operation and spirit in organizing and participation in house events, will this system function effectively.

The lack of co-operation with regard to any inter-house activity requiring some effort is the result of nothing more than a reluctance to be bothered woth it. People cite various reasons for not participating; one of the best is that the House System encourages more competition, something of which there is enough. Granted, there is a great deal of it, what with averages and quintiles, and all sorts of prizes and awards. But this is not a reason; it is an excuse. If there truly existed a person who refused to join in activities, with the firm conviction that they are too competitive, he would probably be disheartened to learn not only that he is "a minority (or majority, depending upon his size) of one", but also that, regardless of which, his argument is of as much consequence to the Headmaster et al. as one debating the point that school is not fun, or that there really are green Pygmies in the centre of the earth. This is not to say that people would not listen, but simply, that the argument is invalid. House activities have grown less competitive--both by the elimination of all but two of the inter-house awards, thus making house events less a matter of simply winning or losing, and by the institution of such activities as the Talent Show--which, though for house points, was more enjoyable than it was competitive. Moreover, those not imaginative enough to find excuses have often found that if they do bother to attend house events, they actually discover themselves enjoying them--making new friends within the house, or finding that the odd-looking kid with the big nose and funny glasses, is really a good sport, and not an imbecile after all. Everyone displayed so little enthusiasm in submitting designs for the house buttons and banners, and in organizing the talent show; three new deadlines had to be set for each, and even then, few offered suggestions. This must not happen in the future; for if everyone does not participate actively, the house system will surely die.

However, co-operation is not enough; there must be true house spirit. No doubt, it is difficult to display such fervour when there is neither place nor opportunity to do so, especially when one must constantly maintain an appearance of righteousness. But the real problem is that there exists no means of showing one's enthusiasm--no house cheer or similar nonsense to scribble on blackboards or hum in the halls. Each house must definitely write some witty, little jingle--one that goes something like this:

With fairness and honesty
we e'er succeed--
For we are the last of a
fast-dying breed!

Obviously, Assembly is no place to chant such things; but there must be somewhere that is. How about house games? The school has reached a state of frenzy before--during such events as the "provincial elections" and the students' combined appeal. Can the same spirit not arise during inter-house activities? It certainly can, but not without work.

Better organization would also help--as would better winning of the houses. Those who show no interest in the house should be free to leave. Without them, the others can have more fun. The house must plan interesting activities, which, by allowing only house members to join, will encourage more people to remain in the house. The possibilities are, of course, endless, depending only upon the imagination of the house members.

The house system has not fared well in the past, this need not continue. Play as hard as possible during house games. Show enthusiasm for the talent show. Humour the headmaster at Assembly by screaming the hyms out. Undoubtedly, one could derive a great deal of joy from such things.

- B. Shaer 10A

Elvis Costello.

1977, except for a few bright spots (i.e. New Wave), was filled by the production of monumentally awful records. Disco music, despite near-universal hatred, continues to flourish and the airwaves are crowded with wimpy teen idols trying to establish themselves as "entertainers".

One of the bright spots that did arise in '77 was a young Briton, with the unlikely name of Elvis Costello. Bearing a striking resemblance to buddy Holly, brings his own view of life to the public on his debut album My Aim is True.

Costello brings his songs to life in much the same manner as Bruce Springsteen or Graham Parker. He sings with a refreshing intensity and dedication. Most of his singing is reminiscent of Springsteen on his classic album Greetings from Ashbury Park, N.J. Many people have tried to classify his music: some call it New Wave (not punk), others claim it is derivative of the styles of the 50's and 60's and still others dismiss him as a "novelty" act out for the big bucks. But Elvis Costello sings of alienation and life in the 70's, many of his songs are reminiscent of earlier styles, and his strange appearance seems calculated to produce an image. Elvis Costello is beyond classification and that is indeed strange in the 70's. Costello's music is simple and aimed in the supporting of his distinctive voice. His band consists of Peter Thomas, drums, Bruce Thomas, bass, and Steven Young, keyboards. They get the job done with a minimum of frills but a maximum of effect. The atmosphere created is perfect for Costello's singing. An example of this is the soon-to-be classic Alison or the hit single Watching the Detectives.

All in all (despite his appearance which serves to underline the alienation he feels from the mainstream of society) Elvis Costello is one of the best talents to emerge in the past year, and is likely to consolidate his position as the New Wave Graham Parker in 1978.

by Alfred Lemaître.

MUSIC

Rock's Top Ten Records.

Rock has certainly produced many "classic" albums but some have a longevity which others strive for. With the ecclectism of the 1970's becoming the dominant influence less rock albums are being produced because few are willing to advance what is already a conventional form. But the following albums crystalize what rock music really is. It would be very difficult to improve upon the following list.

The White Album-The Beatles.

A musical Grim's Fairy Tales where animals play the roles of men. All the diversity, complexity, humour and skill of The Beatles is displayed on these two records. From acid rock to Dixiland jazz, the varied influences upon The Beatles show through. In addition to the four Beatles such excellent musicians as Eric Clapton grace this record.

Exile on Main Street-
The Rolling Stones.

This record was made in 1972 at the apex of their power as a rock band. Keith Richards' guitar lashes out incredible riffs with a full brass section maintaining unity. There are a few surprises on this record such as a song dedicated to Angela Davis, the black civil rights leader, and the gospel song Shine A Light. Another masterpeice from their satanic majesties.

Who's Next-The Who.

Unquestionably one of their finest albums. The skill and power behind the lyrics are unparalleled. Pete Townschend doesn't jump off the record, he leaps and soars! The innocence of their early period has disappeared in the song "Won't Get Fooled Again" and a higher awareness is found in "Baba O'Riley".

Eric Clapton-At His Best.

No other album captures the diversity of this fine guitarist. This collection documents his progression from Blind Faith to his "pop" period with Melanie and Bonnie. In any event, any song with Layla on it is a classic. This song featuring Duane Allman on slide guitar is a masterpeice with its jarring introduction and ethereal conclusion.

Déjà Vu-
Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young.

As with all supergroups their union was short-lived but what music they made lives on. Many of the songs on this album, such as Teach Your Children and Almost Cut My Hair have become anthems of the Woodstock generation.

Fragile-Yes.

One of the band's most accessible works, it eloquently demonstrates the ability of each of the band members in solo voices and unites their talents in such songs as Roundabout and South Side of The Sky.

Trilogy- ELP.

Can a record which features pieces by Hovel or Aaron Copeland be called "rock"? Aside from heavy classical influences Emerson, Lake and Palmer have produced a masterful album that trancends rock music's limits to form grand new boundaries.

Katy Lied-Steely Dan.

While staying in the conventional rock framework this band has produced some of the most incredible songs. Thanks to near perfect studios in L.A. the sound quality is of the highest degree.

Dark Side of The Moon-
Pink Floyd.

This group has never been strong in talent but they do know how to use their skills to the fullest extent. This concept album explores the inner space with many interesting lyrical observations and dramatic sound effects.

A Wizard-A True Star
-Todd Rundgren.

This, of all his great albums, displays his conceptual skill. Side 1 is a medly of musical ideas masterfully arranged. Side 2 is a collection of more conventional songs. All songs demonstrate his humor, production skill and above all his skill as a musician. He is a master of the controlled melody.

by Kenneth Clark of
THE MOON.

Do you agree with the opinions expressed in this article? If you have any comments write a letter to the
MOOOOOON.

SCIENCE FICTION REVIEWS IN BRIEF

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND

Before you spend the $2.50 on this movie, you should be warned of several flaws which nearly destroy the film. Ever since 2001: A Space Oddysey appeared, Science Fiction writers, especially on T.V. and in films, have become COSMIC. No longer does a writer have to think of a plausable explanation or resolution to a particularly rotten situation. GOD, or at least a higher intelligence,steps in. Steven Spielberg refuses or does not bother to explain many of the situations which arise in Close Encounters. He would rather have us believe that behave in an irrational manner for Their own (capitalizations intended) Reason. Why, instead of going down to the U.N. and saying "Hi", do the Aliens flit about Indiana highways? Perhaps, they enjoy drag racing with police cars. How, when, and why do The Aliens plant the vision of Devil's Tower into Roy Neary's (Richard Dreyfuss) mind. Why do the Aliens bother planting this obsession if they tell the army where They plan to land anyway? Why does Roy Neary's truck get lifted into the air in a COSMIC attack and then after nearly being destroyed, drive off exactly as it was before? Why is a French scientist (Francois Truffaut) running the U.S. military? Why does his knowledge of English come and go with no more regularity than the ssaucers? And so on....

Another flaw is the motivation of Roy Neary. I find it hard to believe that a grwn man would rather chase COSMIC Teacups than keep his family. Why does he suddenly start making mudpies in the shape of Devil's Tower- in the middle of his living room? I'm sure that Mr. Spielberg would answer that Roy has a vision of the future. This leads to the core of the film.

Mr. Spielberg wants another 2001. He wants a religious experience of the future. The ending becomes the entire justification for the film. It is optomistic and even a cynic like me found it moving. Roy Neary becomes a new pilgrim driven by his new religion to the new Mecca. (Note the similarity between Devil's Tower of Close Encounters and The Black Slab of 2001.) Then Neary becomes the prophet and contact for The Aliens, and they go off in a blaze of special effects into THE COSMOS. SUCH IS COSMIC STUFF!

This movie requires a good deal of patience and pop-corn. Don't go to an early showing- the kiddies will not sit through the long middle. Don't believe every rave you hear from Newsweek and TIME. They are in the mood to praise mediocre Sci-Fi. The effects are dazzling but too many questions are left unanswered. Why Muncie, why don't the Aliens come to Akron or Peribonka? Why bother to pay the $2.50.And so on....

SPACE 1999

Space 1999 is another bit of COSMIC fluff which tries to "cash in" on 2001. The deliberately similar title is the most obvious example. Like Close Encounters, many of the episodes are explained away as Divine Intervention. If I had a nickle for each time Moonbase Alpha was completely destroyed and then saved by a COSMIC force, I could go see a film.

In an attempt to save the series, the producers introduced an alien with a computer-like mind. If stealing from 2001 fails, try Star Trek. Thankfully, Space has been cancelled.

J. Nadler

A REMINDER!

the fourth dimension

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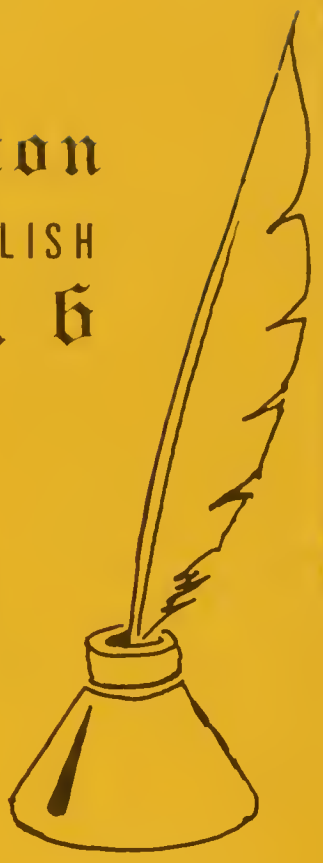

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MAN ON THE MOON

For the third issue of the well established Moon, we feature the infamous M.Deguire, Selwyn House School french teacher. As this tepid article will reveal, M.Deguire does not live up to the image he projects. In fact, he is just as abnormal as the rest of the teaching staff...

M.Deguire is a native Montrealer, having been born on the South Shore 26 years ago. He spent his early years attending various schools and listening to music. He soon developed a great liking for the "Beatles". Even today, despite the onslaught of more modern music, he is still an avid fan of the "Beatles". M.Deguire had his first three years of secondary education (grades 7, 8 and 9) at an Ecole Classique, a rigorous private school in the french Canadian tradition. Later the school closed down and he was forced to attend a public school (he can't even remember it's name) for grades 11 and 12. He remained in Longueil for two years at Edouard Montpetit. An avid student, M.Deguire continues his education at L'Université de Montréal, where he is studying for his teaching diploma.

M.Deguire's interests are widely varied: he enjoys rock music, yet claims he prefers classical music even more. He likes Pink Floyd, the Rolling Stones, but as mentioned his all-time favorite group is the Beatles. His involvement in sports stretches into hockey, football and volleyball. Politics, specifically the Quebec situation, is the one area where he is not active. M.Deguire has no well-defined opinions pertaining to this subject but when pressed for an answer by this Moon reporter, he said he didn't think a seperate Quebec is likely.

M.Deguire started out with ambitions to be a writer, in fact, he was an aspiring playwright. However, three years ago, he chose teaching as a career. Somehow, he ended up with it and now teaches Grades 6 through 10 here at [illegible]. M.Deguire strives to be considered as a friend by his students, not their overbearing slave-driver. He preaches total class participation and he feels that students should be treated as adults. In this time, M.Deguire says, discipline is a poor substitute for understanding when trying to keep students wondering.

continued at the bottom of the next page

REVIEWS

Sweet-Levelheaded — A great change from the Ballroom Blitz days , ACDC and Fox on the Run. The music is more complex to almost a pretentious degree. Some of the songs like "Love is like Oxygen" are quite good; others are weak or overdone. A good album, although determining which are the better ones will have to wait for the future.

Muddy Waters-I'm ready — With Johnny Winter on the guitar, this is a 'hot' album. It's a mixture of commercial blues and subtle rock; very much worth the price.

Elvis Costello - My Aim is True— If you look closely you can see it says "Elvis is King" all over the album's cover, but it's not clear which Elvis he's referring to. Anyhow, it is an excellent LP with some of the purest rock recorded in a long time.

Jackson Browne- Running on Empty —Very good effort; very good album.

Bob Welch- French Kiss- Sellout and I don't like it; it lacks reason and direction, sounding like another California Kid bothering to open his suntanned mouth to topple us with his ramblings of California love and disillusionment. Very commercial, almost too clean. This ex-Fleetwood Mac guitarist is more akin to a mindless wimp.

Robert Charlebois - Swing Charlebois

Swing — Very middle of the road and very center of ice. Very boring. The man obviously lost his imagination and switched from a Canadien's sweater to a fur vest.

Ted Nugent - Double Live Gonzo— [illegible] a joke, or at least a long, merry [illegible].

Since the last issue, the newspaper has received numerous lists of your favorite albums released in 1977. Here are the ten most listed albums:

1 David Bowie—Heroes
2 Rod Stewart- Footloose and Fancy Free
3 Fleetwood Mac - Rumours
4 ELP- Works Volume One
5 ELP- Works Volume Two
6 Yes- Going for The One
7 Queen- News Of the World
8 Steely- Dan Aja
9 Be-Bop Deluxe Live in the Air Age
10 Boston - Boston

R. Iton

THE CHESS TEAM

After a dismal first match against Westmount High in which the Chess Team lost four out of five games, the played against St. Georges. We won two games out of five. It must be noted that Westmount High and St. Georges placed first and third in The Chess League last year.

Congratulations to Lawrence Hsu for his draw against Westmount High and to Nathan Fong and James Nadler for their victories over St. Georges.

-MOON STAFFER

MAN ON THE MOON (continued)

Selwyn House strikes [illegible] as an extremely capable institution which can produce super indiviouals. In fact, [illegible] that SHS churns out much better students than almost [illegible] secondary schools. As a note of interest, Mr. Beguine [illegible] Moon that grades 8 and 10 are the best classes while the [illegible] are the most troublesome. He claims that the Grade 7 students are difficult to control because they are too old to be treated as children yet too young to be treated as adults.

S. White